An anti-peptide antibody is generated against a sequence near the carboxy-terminus of adlican based on the predicted coding sequence of the first cDNA clone, 106A. A 15 residue peptide (CMAKNILGSDSKTTY (SEQ ID NO:9)), corresponding to the sequence of the adlican protein near the carboxyl terminus, is designed based on surface probability as determined using the program PROTEAN, a component of the LASERGENE suite of programs (DNASTAR Inc., Madison, WI). The peptide is synthesized, purified, and used to immunize two rabbits following a standard protocol (Genosys Biotechnologies, The Woodlands, TX). Antiserum from one of the immunized animals which shows the highest titer against the peptide is used for immunoblot analysis. Samples (4 μl) of human synovial fluid are subjected to SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, are transferred to PVDF membranes (BioRad, Hercules, CA), are analyzed for immunoreactivity using a 1:500 dilution of the antiserum, using the ECL detection system (chemiluminescent) (Amersham, Piscataway, NJ).

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